



VERONA MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

7:00 P.M.

April 17, 2024

CALL TO ORDER- meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Chairperson Rachel Klansky via zoom call.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

Chairperson Klansky read Open Public Meeting Act statement, and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL- In attendance: Ann Jocelyn (Coordinator), Rachel Klansky (Chairperson), Julianne Boyle (Secretary), Officer Pinto (Verona Police Department), Councilwoman Cynthia Holland (Verona Town Council), Diane DiGiuseppe (Superintendent of Verona Schools), Colin Boyle (Community Representative), Kimberly Manis (Community Representative), Carol Lynn Moy (HBW/ VHS Representative); Regina Tully (FNB), Rosanna Gionni (Laning)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from October 18, 2023 Meeting- Colin Boyle moved to approve, Kimberly Manis seconded approval.

READING OF THE VISION/MANDATE/ MISSION STATEMENTS

FINANCIAL & PROGRAM REVIEW

Ann Jocelyn provided a review of 3rd quarter (Jan-Mar) spending & program activity.

\$8,323.69 was expended from State & Township funding: \$23 for grant administration expenses, \$7,300.69 for school-based program stipends and activities, and \$1,000 for community activities. \$3,384.60 In-kind contributions were recorded including coordination expenses and volunteer hours for Family Night and meetings.

Heroes & Cool Kids –had 3 training sessions. 2 trips to HBW and will be going to HBW for 3rd mentoring session on April 25th. Have a record number of applicants for FY25- the program continues to thrive.

HBW Peer Leaders – awarded and performed random acts of kindness in February, working on 4th grade orientation for parents and students, a spirit day fundraiser for a teacher running the NYC marathon, and awareness and celebration of Asian & Pacific Islanders month in May.

Success Street – Live Webinars (with recorded playback available) held in January (elementary, Managing Childhood Anxiety, 42 registrants), February (HBW & VHS Social Media Safety, 25 registrants) and March (VHS & HBW, Building Self-Esteem in Teens, 27 registrants).

Family Night – Tuesday, March 5. Promoted with two fabulous posters from our talented HBW students. 16 restaurants, including one promoting a mocktail. Additional activities were offered by restaurants, Collective Bookstore and Library. VMAC provided activity sheet and crayons to all participating restaurants. Next Family Nights are Thursdays, October 10 (NOTE: following the April meeting, this was rescheduled to October 9, 2024) and March 13, 2025.

VPD outreach to students – provided 600 3rd graders with Life Choices activity book from the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey.

Ann Jocelyn reviewed final modifications to the FY24 spending plan. RFPs were sent to Library, Rec, HIB, VPS guidance, VPD. Chairwoman Klansky called for a vote and the modification was passed unanimously.

Ann Jocelyn indicated that 4th quarter spending would be slightly more than \$10,000 including stipends for several programs, modification spending as approved, and other remaining program expense. A review of 4th quarter program initiatives was also discussed.

The plan for the allocation of the FY25 grant in the amount of \$21,151.58 was submitted to the County based on the resolution passed on January 22 by the Township Council and the plan approved by the Committee at the January meeting of VMAC. Funding includes \$16,921.26 from the State and \$4,230.32 from the Township to be allocated \$2,500 to Alliance Coordination, \$17,062.25 to School-based programs, \$1,589.33 to Community-based Activities. \$12,690.95 in-kind donations including volunteer time, coordination expenses, and room use fees are also included in the plan.

The revised VMAC by-laws were circulated prior to the meeting and unanimously approved by the Committee members in attendance after a brief discussion. Revision included streamlining the process for nominating officers Section 3.

Chairwoman Klansky reported that Ann Jocelyn, Colin Boyle, Elizabeth Hynes and Rachel Klansky had previously submitted written statements that they had no known conflicts with VMAC interests. Chairwoman Klansky polled each member in attendance regarding potential conflicts and none were reported by members in attendance.

Ann Jocelyn noted that Julianne Boyle would be resigning from the Committee, thus leaving a vacancy in the office of Secretary. At the time of the April meeting, no member indicated an interest in this position. In addition, Chairwoman Klansky would prefer to step-down from her role as Chair, but offered to stay on until a replacement was identified. At the time of the meeting, Kim Manis expressed interest in the position and asked for time to consider the role and vet with the Compliance team at her place of employment her eligibility to assume the Chairperson role. This will be reviewed again in July. No other member indicated an interest in

this position. Chairwoman Klansky and Ann Jocelyn asked that anyone with interest reach out to either of them following the meeting. This topic will be addressed again at the July 2024 meeting.

The Committee members voted to adopt FY25 quarterly meeting schedule of FOURTH Wednesday following quarter-end. (NOTE: following the meeting, Ann Jocelyn was notified by the Township clerk that those dates now conflicted with another Township Committee. VMAC was asked to move the meetings to the 4th TUESDAY. This schedule will be confirmed at the July meeting)

Ann Jocelyn informed the Committee members that GCADA Governors Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse is now GCSUD Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorders with a new logo. As a reminder, EVERYTHING produced should include the logos of VMAC, GCSUD, and Township whenever possible.

A redesign of the VMAC logo was launched in cooperation with the VHS Art Department. Students in the graphic design class created designs, a few of which were selected by the Art Department staff for the Committee to review. The Committee selected a meaningful design that captures the VMAC mission in words and image.

PUBLIC COMMENT- no public comment

ADJOURNMENT- meeting adjourned 7:45 by Chairperson Klansky.

Submitted by: Kimberly Manis for Julianne Boyle